

Amendments to the Claims

Please replace all prior versions of the claims with the following listing of CLAIMS:

1 to 21 (canceled).

22 (previously presented). A closure for a food or beverage container, wherein the closure includes a sealant liner molded from a composition comprising

(A) a polymer component, which is essentially free of erucamide and other unsaturated amide, said polymer component comprising a thermoplastic polymer selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, ethylene copolymer with other lower alkenes, polypropylene, thermoplastic rubber, poly (ethylene propylene) copolymer, acid modified ethylene propylene copolymer, styrene butadiene rubber, carboxylated styrene butadiene block co-polymer, polyisoprene, styrene isoprene styrene block copolymer, styrene butadiene styrene block copolymer, styrene ethylene butylene styrene block copolymer, polystyrene block polyethylene/propylene copolymer, ethylene vinyl acetate copolymer or terpolmer, ethylene acrylate copolymer or terpolymer, ethylene vinyl alcohol copolymer, butyl rubber, poly(vinyl chloride) polymer, and mixtures thereof;

(B) a lubricant comprising an organopolysiloxane, said organopolysiloxane having an average molecular weight not less than 40,000, said organosiloxane being present in an amount not less than 0.01 parts and not greater than 10 parts based on 100 parts of said polymer component (A), and said organopolysiloxane having a viscosity of at least 50,000 cst; and

(C) a slip aid comprising a saturated amide and an oxidized polyethylene, said slip aid being present in an amount not less than 0.01 parts and not greater than 8 parts based on 100 parts of said polymer component (A), said amide having an iodine value no greater than 5 in accordance with ASTM D2075-92.

23 (previously presented). A closure according to claim 22, wherein said saturated amide is selected from the group consisting of behenamide, stearamide, arachidamide, palmitamide, myristamide, lauramide and ethylene bis-stearamide.

24 (previously presented). A closure according to claim 23, wherein said polymer component comprises an ethylene vinyl acetate copolymer in an amount not less than 5 parts and not greater than 100 parts, based on 100 parts of said polymer component (A).

25 (previously presented). A closure according to claim 23, wherein said polymer component comprises polyethylene, polypropylene, or a mixture thereof

26 (previously presented). A closure according to claim 23, wherein said polymer component comprises a copolymer of polyethylene and polypropylene.

27 (previously presented). A closure according to claim 23, wherein said polymer component comprises ethylene vinyl acetate copolymer and poly(ethylene propylene) copolymer.

28 (previously presented). A closure according to claim 23, wherein said polymer component comprises poly(vinyl chloride) polymer.

29 (previously presented). A closure according to claim 23, wherein said polymer component comprises polyethylene, polypropylene, or a mixture thereof; and further comprises styrene-ethylene butylene-styrene block copolymer.

30 (currently amended). A closure according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 22, wherein said saturated amide is behenamide.

31 (previously presented). A closure according to claim 30, wherein said organopolysiloxane is poly(dimethyl) siloxane.

32 (previously presented). A closure according to claim 22, wherein said organopolysiloxane is poly(dimethyl) siloxane.

33 (currently amended). A closure according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 22, wherein said saturated amide is stearamide.

34 (previously presented). A closure according to claim 33, wherein said organopolysiloxane is poly(dimethyl) siloxane.